

**Speech by Ambassador Nagma M. Mallick at Martyr's Day at Edogawa,  
30 January, 2026**

**Members of the Indian community, friends of India in Japan, teachers and students**

**Good morning to all of you**

Today, we gather here in Edogawa with solemn hearts to commemorate Martyrs' Day - a day of reflection, reverence, and resolve, dedicated to the Father of our Nation, whom we call BAPU.

On this day let us remember the enduring contribution of Mahatma Gandhi, whose unwavering commitment to non-violence and truth continues to inspire humanity. His life's work indeed gave us our cherished freedom from colonial rule. His teachings have inspired non-violent movements around the world against colonialism, racism and oppression. His life has also inspired environmental movements around the world. Simple living....against consumerism.. "The world has enough for everyone's needs, but not enough for everyone's greed". His sacrifice transcends borders, uniting us in our collective quest for peace and harmony. Today, as we offer floral tributes, we pay homage to his vision of a world free from hatred, division, and oppression.

Here, in the beautiful city of Edogawa, Japan, our gathering also reflects the enduring bond between India and Japan- a relationship built on shared values of peace, mutual respect, and cultural exchange. This city, with its serene surroundings, serves as a fitting venue to remember and honor the martyr who laid the foundation for the freedom we cherish.

As we stand in 2026, Gandhi's teachings are perhaps more relevant than ever. We live in a world that is increasingly polarized, where conflict, inequality, and environmental degradation threaten the well-being of future generations. In times like these, Gandhi's philosophy provides us with the moral compass we need. Let us take this moment to renew our pledge to uphold the ideals for which Gandhiji lived and died. May his sacrifice remind us of our responsibility to build a more equitable and compassionate world.

Thank you for coming here today to remember Bapu and all that the world owes him. When asked as to what his message to the world was, Bapu replied "My Life is my message".